MOVIES ABOUT BLINDNESS

ILLUMINATING
The Human Experience

The **MUSEUM** of the
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE for the **BLIND**

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THE BOOK OF ELI (2010)
With Denzel Washington, Mila Kunis, and Ray Stevenson
Directed by Albert and Allen Hughes
Rated R, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

In a post-apocalyptic America, a lone man fights his way across America in order to protect a sacred book that holds the secrets to saving humankind.

JULIA'S EYES (Spain, 2010)
Directed by Guillem Morales
Rated R, available on Amazon Instant View

A woman who is slowly losing her sight from a degenerative disease tries to investigate the brutal and mysterious death of her blind twin sister.

LETTERS TO FATHER JACOB (Finland, 2009)
Directed by Klaas Haro
Rated PG, available from Amazon, Netflix

Newly pardoned convict Leila agrees to work as an assistant to a blind pastor. Father Jacob spends his days answering the letters of the needy, which Leila finds pointless. When the letters stop, the pastor is devastated.

BLINDNESS (2008)
With Julia Moore, Mark Ruffalo, and Gael Garcia Benal
Directed by Fernando Meirelles
Rated R, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A doctor's wife becomes the only person with the ability to see in a town where everyone is struck with a mysterious case of sudden blindness. She feigns illness in order to take care of her husband as her community dissolves into chaos.

LOVE AND HONOR (Japan, 2007)
Directed by Yoji Yamada
Rated PG13, available from Amazon

In the waning days of feudal Japan, a low caste Samurai, blinded in a freak accident, struggles to accept his fate. Triple winner of the Japanese Academy Awards.

THE LOOKOUT (2007)
With Joseph Gordon Levitt, Jeff Daniels, and Isla Fisher
Directed by Scott Frank
Rated PG13, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix Instant View

A former hockey player who has suffered a devastating brain injury agrees to rob the bank where he works. His roommate, who is blind, is caught up in the plot and both their lives are put in danger.

BLIND (The Netherlands, 2007)
Written and directed by Tamar fan den Dop
Available from Amazon

An albino woman and a blind man develop an indiscriminate love for one another. When the man gets his sight back, will love still be blind?

BLIND DATING (2006)
With Chris Pine
Directed by James Keach
Rated PG13, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A blind young man thinks he has found love with an Indian woman though their relationship is fraught with all kinds of differences.

THE WHITE COUNTESS (2005)
With Ralph Fiennes, Natasha Richardson, and Vanessa Redgrave
Directed by James Ivory
Rated PG13, available from Amazon Instant View, iTunes, Netflix Instant

In 1930s Shanghai, a blind American diplomat develops a curious relationship with a young Russian refugee who works odd -- and sometimes illicit -- jobs to support members of her dead husband's aristocratic family.

UNLEASHED (UK, 2005)
With Jet Li, Morgan Freeman, and Bob Hoskins
Directed by Louis Leterrier
Available from Amazon, iTunes

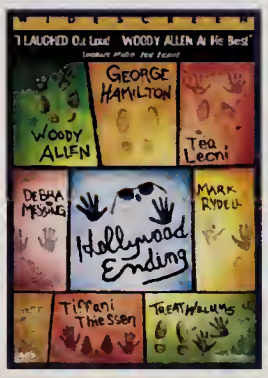
A kung fu action movie, in which a young man raised as a dog and trained to fight finds refuge with a kindly blind piano tuner.

RAY (2004)
With Jamie Fox, Regina King, and Kerry Washington
Directed by Taylor Hackford
Rated PG13, available from Amazon (with DVS), iTunes, Netflix

Oscar-winning account of the life and career of the legendary popular music pianist, Ray Charles. Won Oscar for lead actor and sound; nominated for picture, director, editor, and costume design.

DAREDEVIL (2003)
With Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner, and Colin Farrell
Directed by Mark Steven Johnson
Rated PG13, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A man blinded by toxic waste which also enhanced his remaining senses fights crime as a martial arts superhero.

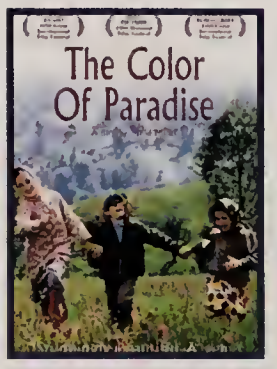


HOLLYWOOD ENDING (2002)
With Woody Allen, Tea Leoni, and George Hamilton
Directed by Woody Allen
Rated PG13, available from Amazon, Netflix

A once-famous film director suffers hysterical blindness due to the intense pressure of directing.

AT FIRST SIGHT (1999)
With Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino
Directed by Irwin Winkler
Rated PG13, available from Amazon

A blind man has an operation to regain his sight at the urging of his girlfriend and must deal with the changes to his life. Inspired by the essay "To See and See Not" by the neurologist Olive Sacks.



THE COLOR OF PARADISE (Iran, 1999)
Directed by Majid Majidi
In Farsi, with subtitles
Rated PG, available from iTunes, Amazon, Netflix

A widowed father struggles to overcome the shame he feels because his son is blind.

THE QUEST FOR CAMELOT (1998)
With Cary Elwes, Jane Seymour, Gary Oldman, and John Gielgud
Directed by Frederik Du Chau
Rated G, Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A spirited young girl in Camelot longs to be a knight of the Round Table. She searches for the enchanted sword Excalibur with the help of her blind companion. A Disney animated musical.

BLINK (1994)
With Madeleine Stowe and Aidan Quinn
Directed by Michael Apted
Rated R, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

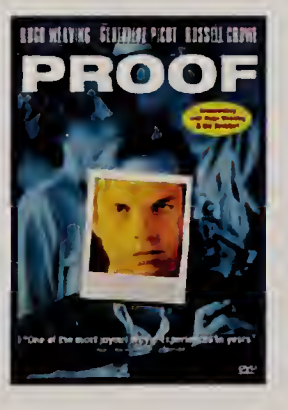
A cornea transplant gives Emma her vision back, but also puts her in peril, as she witnesses a murderer leaving the scene of his crime. As she adapts to being sighted once again, she becomes part of the murder investigation.

SCENT OF A WOMAN (1992)
With Al Pacino and Chris O'Donnell
Directed by Martin Brest
Rated R, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix Instant

A prep school student needing money agrees to "babysit" a blind man, but the job is not at all what he anticipated. Won Oscar for lead actor; nominated for director, picture, and writing.

JENNIFER 8 (1992)
With Andy Garcia and Uma Thurman
Directed by Bruce Robinson
Rated R, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A big city cop brought in to solve a small town murder believes that a young blind woman is going to be the next victim of a serial killer.



PROOF (Australia, 1991)
With Hugo Weaving, Genevieve Picot, and Russell Crowe
Directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse
Rated R, available from Amazon

The life of a blind photographer who is looked after by a housekeeper is disrupted by the arrival of an agreeable restaurant worker.

WILD HEARTS CAN'T BE BROKEN (1991)
With Gabrielle Anwar and Cliff Robertson
Directed by Steve Miner
Rated G, available from iTunes, Amazon Instant View, Netflix

A girl runs away to join the circus and lands a roll in the girl-and-horse high diving act. Blinded in an accident, she continues to perform. Based on a true story.

BLIND FURY (1989)
With Rutger Hauer, Terry O'Quinn, and Brandon Call
Directed by Phillip Noyce
Rated R, available from iTunes, Amazon

A blind Vietnam vet, trained as a swordfighter, comes to America and helps to rescue the son of a fellow soldier.

SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL (1989)
With Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder
Directed by Arthur Hiller
Rated R, available from iTunes, Amazon, Netflix

A blind man and a deaf man work together to foil a trio of murderous thieves in this broad comedy.

IF YOU COULD SEE WHAT I HEAR (1985)
With Marc Singer and Shari Belafonti
Directed by Eric Till
Available from iTunes, Amazon

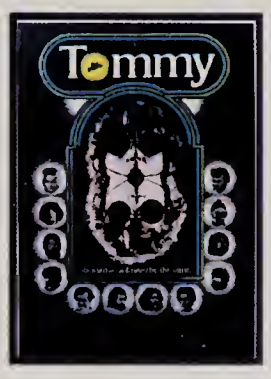
A light comedy/love story based on the real experiences of musician Tom Sullivan as a college student.

PLACES IN THE HEART (1984)
With Sally Field, John Malkovich, Ed Harris, Danny Glover
Directed by Robert Benton
Rated PG, available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

The story of a Texas widow who tries to keep her farm together with the help of a blind man and a black man during the Great Depression. Won Oscars for actress and screenplay; nominated for movie, director, costumes, supporting actor, and supporting actress.

ICE CASTLES (1978)
With Lynn-Holly Johnson and Robby Benson
Directed by Donald Wyre
Rated PG, available from iTunes, Amazon

A young ice skater moving up the skating ranks, dreams of being a champion, until an accident takes her vision. Remade in 2010.



TOMMY (1975)
Directed by Ken Russell
With Roger Daltrey, Ann-Margret, Jack Nicholson, Tina Turner, and Elton John
Rated PG, available from iTunes, Amazon Instant View, Netflix

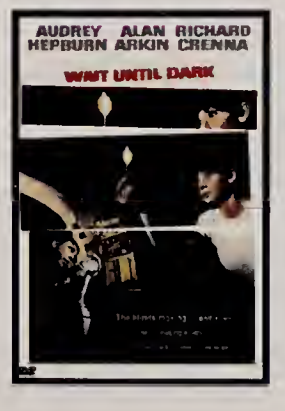
In this musical, a psychosomatically deaf, dumb, and blind boy becomes a master at pinball and inspires a religious movement. Based on the album by The Who. Oscar nominated for supporting actress and soundtrack.

BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE (1972)
With Goldie Hawn, Eileen Heckhart, and Edward Albert
Directed by Milton Katselas
Rated PG, available from iTunes, Amazon, Netflix

A blind man moves into his own apartment against the wishes of his overprotective mother, and befriends the young woman next door. Won Oscar for supporting actress; nominated for sound and cinematography.

SEE NO EVIL (1971)
With Mia Farrow and Dorothy Allison
Directed by Richard Fleischer
Available from iTunes, Amazon, Netflix

A blind woman returns home, unaware that her family has been murdered and that the killer will soon be returning to the house.



WAIT UNTIL DARK (1967)
With Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, and Richard Crenna
Directed by Terence Young
Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A recently blinded woman is terrorized by a trio of thugs while they search for a heroin stuffed doll they believe is in her apartment. Oscar nomination for lead actress.

A PATCH OF BLUE (1965)
With Sidney Poitier, Elizabeth Hartman, and Shelley Winters
Directed by Guy Green
Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A black man is determined to help a blind, uneducated white girl escape her impoverished and abusive home life. Oscar win for best supporting actress; nominated for cinematography, art direction, actress, and music.

BALLAD IN BLUE (1964)
With Ray Charles
Directed by Paul Henried
Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

Ray Charles plays himself in this story of a newly blind child and his over-protective mother.

THE MIRACLE WORKER (1962, remade in 1979, 2000)
With Patty Duke and Anne Bancroft
Directed by Arthur Penn
Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

The story of Anne Sullivan's struggle to teach the blind and deaf Helen Keller how to communicate. Oscars for lead actress and supporting actress; nominated for director, writing, costume. Remade in 1979, 2000.

DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS (UK, 1962)
With Howard Keel
Directed by Steve Sekely
Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

A freak meteor shower blinds almost everyone on Earth while giant plants roam the countryside, multiplying exponentially and feeding on people and animals.

23 PACES TO BAKER STREET (1956)
With Van Johnson and Vera Miles
Directed by Henry Hathaway
Available from Amazon

Philip Hannon, a blind playwright living in London, overhears a conversation that leads him into a desperate race to find a kidnapped child.

MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (1954)
With Rock Hudson and Jane Wyman
Directed by Douglas Sirk
Available from Amazon, Netflix

A playboy becomes a doctor to atone for the wrongs he has done to a woman, having caused the death of her husband and her blindness. Oscar nominated for actress.

TORCH SONG (1953)
With Joan Crawford and Michael Wilding
Directed by Charles Waters
Available on Amazon, Netlix

A temperamental Broadway star falls in love with her blind rehearsal pianist. Oscar nominated for supporting actress.

BRIGHT VICTORY (1951)
With Arthur Kennedy and Peggy Dow
Directed by Mark Robson
Currently Unavailable

A World War II soldier is blinded by a German sniper's bullet. Rehabilitation at the military hospital presents challenges, but accepting his disability also proves to be difficult for others. Oscar nominated for actor and sound.

PRIDE OF THE MARINES (1945)
With John Garfield and Eleanor Parker
Directed by Delmer Daves
Available from Amazon

A Marine hero is blinded in battle and returns home to be rehabilitated. Oscar nominated for screenplay.

EYES IN THE NIGHT (1942)
With Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, and Donna Reed
Directed by Fred Zinneman
Available from Amazon, Netflix

A blind detective and his guide dog investigate a murder and discover a Nazi plot.

THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (UK, 1940)
With Conrad Veidt and Sabu
Directed by Michael Powell, Ludwig Berger, and Tim Whelan
Available from Amazon

A young thief overcomes various challenges to restore the sight of Bagdad's deposed king and return him to the throne. Won Oscars for cinematography, art direction, and special effects; nominated for music score.

CITY FOR CONQUEST (1940)
With James Cagney and Ann Sheridan
Directed by Anatole Litvak
Available from Amazon

A truck driver enters the boxing ring to pay for his brother's musical education. He is blinded by his opponent in a fight and struggles to maintain his independence.

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED (1939)
With Ronald Colman and Walter Huston
Directed by William Wellman
Available from Amazon

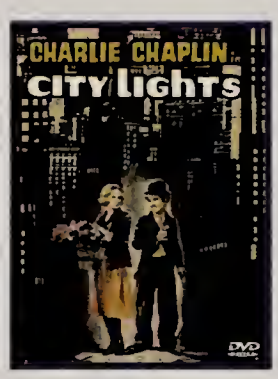
An artist who is gradually losing his sight from a wound he received in war struggles to complete his masterpiece. Based on a story by Rudyard Kipling; previously made into a silent movie in 1916.

WINGS IN THE DARK (1935)
With Myrna Loy and Cary Grant
Directed by James Flood
Available from Amazon

An aviator working on an autopilot device ironically loses his sight in an explosion. He reorganizes his life with the help of a guide dog. Then, when the woman he loves is in trouble, he sneaks into his old artcraft and flies on a rescue mission, depending on the device to guide him.

THE DARK ANGEL (1935)
With Frederick March and Merle Oberon
Directed by Sidney Franklin
Available from Amazon

A young man, blinded in war, hides away from his family and his fiancée. Believing that he is dead, the girl marries her childhood friend.



CITY LIGHTS (1931)
With Charlie Chaplin and Virginia Cherrill
Directed by Charlie Chaplin
Available from Amazon Instant View, iTunes, Netflix

Chaplin's little tramp falls in love with a blind flower girl; when he tries to help her she mistakes him for a rich man. Widely regarded as one of the most influential films ever made.

THE MAGIFICENT LIE (1931)
With Ruth Chatterton, Ralph Bellamy, and Charles Boyer
Directed by Berthold Viertel
Currently unavailable

A nightclub singer, taking pity on a blind soldier, pretends to be the woman he loved before he went to war.

MARIANNE (1929)
With Marion Davis
Directed by Robert Z. Leonard
Currently unavailable

A young French girl is engaged to a soldier in World War I. When he returns home blind and embittered, she turns her attentions to an American soldier.

THE MAN WHO LAUGHS (1928)
With Mary Philbin and Conrad Veidt
Directed by Paul Leni
Available from Amazon, Netflix

A man whose face has been disfigured by a vengeful king falls in love with a blind girl. Based on a novel by Victor Hugo.

ORPHANS IN THE STORM (1922)
With Lillian and Dorothy Gish
Directed by D.W. Griffiths
Available from Amazon

An epic melodrama about two orphaned girls during the French Revolution's reign of terror. One is a peasant; the other, who is blind, is a member of the French aristocracy.

LOVE LIGHT (1921)
With Mary Pickford
Directed by Frances Marion
Available from Amazon

A young woman experiences many losses during World War I, including the blinding of her fiancé.

DOCUMENTARIES

PLANET OF SNAIL (2011)
Directed and produced by Yi Seungjun
Available from iTunes, Amazon

A portrait of an extraordinary Korean couple helping each other live with very different disabilities: he is a blind and deaf writer and poet; she has a form of dwarfism related to a spinal defect. In Korean with English subtitles.

GOING BLIND: COMING OUT OF THE DARK ABOUT VISION LOSS (2010)
With audio description for the blind
Directed and produced by Joseph Lovett
Available from Netflix Instant Streaming, iTunes

A documentary film maker losing his vision investigates how people all over the country respond to different types of vision loss.

VINCENT: A LIFE IN COLOR (2010)
Directed and produced by Jennifer Burns
Available from Amazon, iTunes

The story of Chicago's Fashion Man, Vincent P. Falk, blind since birth. His wild outfits and daily fashion shows on Chicago's downtown bridges have long intrigued tourists and locals alike.

DARK LIGHT: THE ART OF BLIND PHOTOGRAPHERS (2011)
Directed by Neil Leifer, produced by Neil Leifer and Corinne Marrinan
Available from Amazon

Explores how creative people with visual impairments are creating art, using photography to paint, with light and shadow, the fantastic landscapes of the internal world of the blind.

THE EYES OF ME (2009)

With audio description for the blind

Directed by Keith Maitland, produced by Keith Maitland and Patrick Floyd

Available from Amazon, iTunes, Netflix

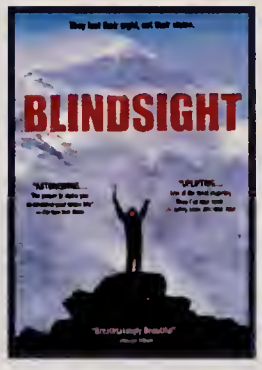
Four blind teenagers at the Texas School for the Blind face the usual challenges of adolescence while navigating a world designed for the sighted.

THE BOY WHO SEES WITHOUT EYES (2007)

Directed by Elliot McCaffrey

Available on YouTube

Ben Underwood had both his eyes removed at the age of three. He taught himself to perceive and locate objects by making clicking sounds with his tongue and using the echoes as they bounced off his environment.



BLINDSIGHT (2006)

With audio description for the blind

Directed by Lucy Walker and produced by Sybil Robson

Available from Amazon, iTunes

Six blind Tibetan teenagers reach the 23,000 summit of Mount Lhakpa Ri (next to Everest) with their teacher, Sabriye Ternberken, and their guide, blind mountaineer and adventurer Eric Weihenmeyer.

GENGHIS BLUES (1999)

Directed by Roko Beli, produced by Roko and Adrian Belic

Available from iTunes, Amazon

The story of Paul Pena, a blind blues musician, and his triumphant trek to the forgotten land of Tuva, in Mongolia, and the mysterious art of Khoomei, or throat singing.

BLUE (1998)
Directed and produced by Derek Jarman
Available from Amazon

Consists of a single shot of saturated blue color filling the screen, as filmmaker Derek Jarman, partially blinded and dying of AIDS, and some of his favorite actors describe his life and vision.

The MUSEUM of the
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE for the BLIND

The Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind is dedicated to preserving and presenting the fascinating educational history of the blind and the historic contributions of the American Printing House for the Blind for the benefit of the visually impaired, educators of the visually impaired, and the broader community.

A visit to our facility can be transformative, confirming that all people can succeed at high levels if they are provided with the proper tools. Daily drop-in tours are available at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Group tours and workshops are available for schools, including homeschools, scouts and other youth groups, and adult and senior groups. All visits are free. Please contact us for more information.

1839 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206
502 -895-2405
www.aph.org
EMAIL info@aph.org